

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /017 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:SWAGENSEIL:MG

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P 261955Z AUG 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 202890 TOSEC 100173

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELING PRESS REPORTAGE, MORNING, TUESDAY,
AUGUST 26

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS (FUNSETH)

NO. 18

WIRES:

1. AP - SCHWEID FROM JERUSALEM CITES HAK ON STEADY
PROGRESS AND DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAYING AGREEMENT MAY BE
WRAPPED UP BY FRIDAY. DIPLOMATS SAY ONLY NUMBER OF STATIONS
TO BE SET UP IN PASSES REMAINS UNSETTLED. HAK REPORTED
DRAFTS OF AGREEMENT BEING EXCHANGED. IN U.S.A., SENATOR
MANSFIELD SAID HE WOULD OPPOSE USE OF AMERICANS TO MAN
STATIONS IN PASSES; PRESIDENT FORD IN MILWAUKEE SAID HE
HAD NOT DECIDED WHETHER AMERICANS SHOULD BE SENT, BUT
THEY WOULD NOT GO WITHOUT CONGRESSIONAL ASSENT.

2. UPI - GROWALD FROM JERUSALEM SAYS "ISRAEL TODAY
APPROVED A DRAFT INTERIM PEACE TREATY FOR HAK TO TAKE TO
SADAT FOR CONSIDERATION, DIPLOMATIC SOURCES REPORTED."
POLITICAL SOURCES IN ALEXANDRIA SAID IT WOULD BE INITIALED
FRIDAY OR SATURDAY AND WOULD GO INTO EFFECT IMMEDIATELY,
BE VALID FOR ONE YEAR, AND BE RENEWABLE ANNUALLY. NEWS
OFFICIALLY BROKEN BY GOI TO ISRAELI PUBLIC THAT IT
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WOULD CEDE TERRITORY TO EGYPT. "DIPLOMATS TOLD UPI STAFF

CORRESPONDENT ALLEN ALTER THAT WITH THE DRAFT ISRAELI-
EGYPTIAN PACT COMPLETED, THE NEGOTIATORS TURNED TO THE

WRITING OF PROPOSED VERSIONS OF COMPANION PACTS, ONE TO BE SIGNED BY ISRAEL, EGYPT AND THE U.S., AND THE OTHER TO BE SIGNED BY ISRAEL AND THE U.S. THE THREE-NATION TREATY WOULD CONTAIN EGYPTIAN PLEDGES TO EASE ITS ECONOMIC AND TRADE BOYCOTT AND POLITICAL AND PROPOGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST ISRAEL. THE U.S.-ISRAELI PACT WOULD SPELL OUT INCREASED AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND ARMS AID FOR ISRAEL."

ALLON ON STATE RADIO CITED THAT ISRAEL WOULD LOSE ONE-SEVENTH OF SINAI, NEW, WIDER UN BUFFER ZONE AND UN WOULD NOW HAVE ONE-TENTH OF SINAI. ALSO, EGYPTIANS AGREED TO TWO MANNED STATIONS IN PASSES, AS WELL AS TWO UN-MANNED STATIONS -- ISRAEL KEEPS UMM KASHIBA AND EGYPT GETS SIMILAR POST. HAK ANNOUNCED NO DETAILS, SAYING HE PREFERS TO WAIT UNTIL DOCUMENT SIGNED BY BOTH SIDES. SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL WARNED OF TROUBLE GETTING BOTH SIGNATURES ON WRITTEN DOCUMENT REPLACING ORAL AGREEMENTS.

3. REUTERS - NELSON CITES HAK THAT NEW TROOP POSITIONS IN SINAI SUBSTANTIALLY AGREED TO BY TWO SIDES. SOURCES SAY EGYPTIANS WILL MOVE EASTWARD AND TAKE UP ISRAELI POSITIONS EAST OF SUEZ AND OILFIELDS. THIS MOVE REPAYS ISRAELI DEMAND FOR UMM KASHIBA, BREACHING LONG-HELD ISRAELI PRINCIPLE NOT TO YIELD LAND UNLESS IT IS DEMILITARIZED. NEW AGREEMENT, TO BE SIGNED THIS WEEKEND THOUGH NOT IMPLEMENTED FOR SIX - EIGHT MONTHS, WOULD EXTEND CEASE-FIRE FOR THREE YEARS. ROCK-BY-ROCK POSITIONS TO BE WORKED OUT BY MILITARY NEGOTIATORS LATER.

PAPERS: ALL PAPERS OPTIMISTIC: 85 "COMPLETE" CITED BY

CSMONITOR AND CHITRIB; WASHPOST SAYS "MAJOR OBSTACLES OUT OF WAY"; NYTIMES "HAK IS WORKING OUT DETAILS."

1. WASHPOST - BERGER FROM JERUSALEM LEADS FRONT PAGE SAYS FINAL WORDING BEING WORKED OUT: ISRAEL WANTS AS MUCH UNCLASSIFIED

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MADE PUBLIC AS POSSIBLE, TO CONVINCE PUBLIC IT HAS WON SOMETHING IN EXCHANGE FOR TERRITORY; EGYPT WANTS MORE KEPT UNSTATED, TO AVOID ATTACKS FROM ARAB WORLD. AGREEMENT HAS SEVERAL LEVELS: EGYPT-ISRAEL AGREEMENT ON PULLBACK; EGYPT-U.S. ASSURANCE ON SUEZ TRANSITS, BOYCOTT AND PROPAGANDA RELAXATION, END OF "DIPLOMATIC WARFARE"; U.S.-ISRAEL ASSURANCES, INCLUDING SOME OF EGYPT'S AND SOME AMERICAN. "KISSINGER HAS SAID REPEATEDLY THAT ALL DOCUMENTS INVOLVING THE U.S. WILL BE GIVEN TO THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEES OF BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS."

QUESTION OF EGYPTIAN ADVANCE, RATHER THAN EXTENDED DEMILITARIZATION, HAS NOW BEEN SETTLED; "REPORTERS

TRAVELLING WITH HAK WERE TOLD THAT ALONG THE GREATER PART OF THE LINE THERE WOULD BE NO EGYPTIAN ADVANCE." HAK SAID LINES "VERY SUBSTANTIALLY" DETERMINED. SOURCES SAID EGYPT COULD HAVE 75 TANKS; TWO BIG STATIONS AND FOUR LITTLE ONES ACCEPTED FOR PASSES. SENIOR OFFICIAL ON PLANE SAID NUMBER OF AMERICANS WOULD BE BETWEEN 100 AND 150, "ON THE OTHER SIDE."

DESPITE STATEMENTS THAT ALL WILL BE PUBLIC, "CERTAIN COMMITMENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE LESS THAN PUBLIC AND EXPLICIT, ALTHOUGH REPORTERS HAVE BEEN ASSURED THAT EVERY-THING WILL BE PINNED DOWN BEYOND THE POINT OF AMBIGUITY OR MISUNDERSTANDING." ASKED IF HE WOULD COME TO USA, SADAT SAID, "WELCOME, SURE, SURE."

IN SEPARATE ITEM, "POST STAFF WRITER" TELLS HOW "A SENIOR AMERICAN BLOWS UP AT A SENIOR ISRAELI'S LEAKS " TELLS OF HAK-ALLON ENCOUNTER AFTER MEETING, HAK AT KING DAVID, LATER.

2. NYTIMES - GWERTZMAN HAS SMALL ITEM ON PAGE 10 SAYING HAK WORKING OUT FINAL DETAILS, SEEING NO SNAGS SO FAR. HAK'S PROBLEM IS NOT MILITARY OR POLITICAL, BUT "HOW TO PRESENT THE FINAL PACKAGE TO THE PUBLIC." ISRAELIS WANT MUCH MADE PUBLIC, SADAT DOES NOT.

3. CHITRIB - MACLEAN ON PAGE ONE SAYS HAK'S RETURN TO ISRAEL MONDAY NIGHT SUGGESTS NEGOTIATIONS ARE GOING WELL. HAK SAYS BOTH SIDES ARE TALKING IN CONCRETE TERMS, UNCLASSIFIED

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THOUGH NOT DOWN TO WORDING YET. LAST REMAINING PROBLEM IS EXTENT OF PUBLICATION OF AGREEMENTS, AND THIS SHOULD BE RESOLVED ONCE IT IS ADDRESSED.

4. CSMONITOR - SCHMIDT HEADS FRONT PAGE, SAYING RETURN TO JERUSALEM MONDAY NIGHT INDICATES SPEEDUP IN SHUTTLE, LEADING TO PROBABLE INITIALING BEFORE RETURN TO UNGA. DETAILED MAPS ACCOMPANIED DRAFT AGREEMENTS, SHOWING THAT "EGYPTIANS GET THE TERRITORY WHILE THE ISRAELIS GET THE PAPER." TACTICS OF THREE SIDES DESIGNED TO CONFUSE QUESTION OF WHAT TERRITORY AND WHAT PAPERS ARE EXCHANGED. "THE ISRAELIS' TACTIC IS TO PUT OUT A BLIZZARD OF INFORMATION, MUCH OF IT ERRONEOUS, BUT INCLUDING WHAT THE ISRAELIS WISH WERE TRUE. THE EGYPTIANS SAY HARDLY ANYTHING AT ALL, AND WHAT THEY DO SAY IS OFTEN MIS-LEADING. DR. KISSINGER'S SENIOR OFFICIAL BEGAN QUITE VOLUBLY BUT HAS BECOME SOMEWHAT SPHINX-LIKE UNDER WEIGHT OF MEDIATING RESPONSIBILITY."

NETWORKS:

1. ABC TV - TEL AVIV, KOPPEL: THE DEMONSTRATORS HAVE HAD AS THEIR VISIBLE TARGET THE AGREEMENT IN GENERAL AND HENRY

KISSINGER IN PARTICULAR; BUT ISRAEL'S PM RABIN IS THE MAN FEELING THE POLITICAL PINCH AND SO AS HAK LEFT ISRAEL FOR ALEXANDRIA YESTERDAY HE CARRIED WITH HIM A NEW DEMAND FROM THE ISRAELI NEGOTIATING TEAM -- HAK WAS TO TELL SADAT THAT THE ISRAELIS WANT SOME OF THOSE PRIVATE UNDERSTANDINGS ON EGYPTIAN CONCESSIONS MADE PUBLIC. IRONICALLY AT THIS POINT THE SUBSTANCE OF THE AGREEMENT IS ALMOST TOTALLY WRAPPED UP - ABOUT 95 COMPLETE ACCORDING TO A SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL; BUT WHERE AS PUBLICIZING EGYPTIAN CONCESSIONS WOULD HELP RABIN IT WOULD MAKE LIFE CORRESPONDINGLY DIFFICULT FOR EGYPT'S SADAT. EVEN SO EVERY INDICATION CONTINUES TO POINT TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE AGREEMENT. SO MUCH SO THAT SADAT, WHO POSTPONED A STATE VISIT TO THE U.S. WHEN THE INTERIM AGREEMENT FAILED LAST MARCH, MADE IT CLEAR YESTERDAY THAT HE NOW EXPECTS TO VISIT AND BY IMPLICATION THE AGREEMENT TO GO THROUGH. REPORTER: "WOULD YOU ACCEPT AN INVITATION TO VISIT THE U.S. THIS FALL?" SADAT: "WELL, YES, SURE."

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2. ABC RADIO - JERUSALEM, KOPPEL: DF MINISTER PERES MADE IT CLEAR IN HIS INTERVIEW WITH ABC NEWS THAT THERE IS NOW ALMOST COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON THE DISPOSITION OF EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI TROOPS; THAT IS, THE NEW LINE HAS BEEN DETERMINED. A POINT OF SOME IMPORTANCE TO ISRAEL IS THE FACT THAT THE DEAL WILL BE KNOWN AS AN 'AGREEMENT' BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL, THE WORD INTERIM HAVING BEEN LEFT OUT. THE MOST IMPORTANT PIECE OF INFORMATION THAT EMERGED FROM THE INTERVIEW WERE THE SPECIFIC DETAILS OF CERTAIN POLITICAL COMMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN AND WILL NOT BE NEGOTIATED UNTIL AFTER THE AGREEMENT IS INITIALED. PERES TOLD ME THAT THESE ISSUES, WHICH CAN'T BE AGREED UPON IN ANY OTHER WAY, WILL BE TAKEN UP IN FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. CBS TV - TEL AVIV, BKALB: THIS SESSION OF ISRAELI LEADERS CALLED LAST NIGHT TO GET THE LATEST WORD FROM HAK ON WHAT SADAT HAD TOLD HIM EARLIER IN THE DAY IN ALEXANDRIA. ONE KEY ISSUE UNDER DISCUSSION - TERRITORIAL- THE EGYPTIANS WANTING TO OCCUPY SOME SLICES OF NOW ISRAELI-HELD TERRITORY BEYOND THE UN BUFFER ZONE. AN APPARENTLY ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE WAS REACHED, THE ISRAELIS AGREEING TO THE EGYPTIANS OCCUPYING A SYMBOLIC SMALL PATCH OF DESERT TO THE SOUTH RATHER THAN TO THE EAST OF THE UN LINE, THIS SEEN AS A BREAKTHROUGH. IN MEETING REPORTERS LATER, HAK AND HIS ISRAELI COUNTERPART FM ALLON

WERE HIGHLY OPTIMISTIC. HAK: "THEY ARE ALL PROBLEMS THAT WERE FORESEEN THAT ARE BEING WORKED ON AND ON WHICH STEADY PROGRESS IS MADE. THERE IS NO DEADLOCK ON ANY ISSUE AT THIS MOMENT." (QUESTION NOT CLEAR) HAK: "I

HAVE TAKEN THE POSITION THROUGHOUT THAT IT IS NOT FOR ME AS THE MEDIATOR TO ANNOUNCE THE POSITION OF THE VARIOUS PARTIES. THIS IS ALL I HAVE EVER SAID ON THIS SUBJECT. I THINK THIS IS NOT THE MAJOR PROBLEM BETWEEN THE PARTIES AT THIS MOMENT. IT IS NOT A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM."

(QUESTION UNCLEAR), HAK: "I THINK THE FM OUGHT TO DO THAT." ALON: "AS FAR AS THE QUESTION THAT YOU ASKED THE SEC ABOUT THE LINE, I THINK I CAN BE EXPLICIT ON THIS. THE EGYPTIANS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ADVANCE INTO THE EXISTING UNCLASSIFIED

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BUFFER ZONE WHERE THE LIMITED FORCES WILL TAKE OVER THIS STRIP OF LAND. THERE MAY BE ONE CHANGE IN THIS BUFFER ZONE WHEN THEY WILL BE PERMITTED TO GO SOUTH ALONG THE GULF OF SUEZ A CERTAIN DISTANCE WITHIN THE ZONE WHICH ACCORDING TO THE ORIGINAL PLANS SHOULD BE CONTROLLED BY THE UN AND ADMINISTERED BY A SIMILAR ADMINISTRATION BY THE EGYPTIANS. REPORTER: "WHY DID YOU AGREE TO THAT, MR. ALON?" HAK BREAKS IN: "I DO NOT FEEL THAT I CAN BE PART --"

KALB: IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT ALON COULD NOT RESTRAIN HIMSELF AND THAT HAK HAD NOT WANTED TO GO PUBLIC ON THE TERRITORIAL ISSUE. THEY WERE BACK AT IT AGAIN THIS MORNING, AMONG ISRAELIS A CONVICTION THAT THE TERRITORIAL ISSUE HAS NOW BEEN RESOLVED, ALSO THAT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON SETTING UP AT LEAST FOUR EARLY-WARNING STATIONS IN THE SINAI -- TWO TO BE MANNED BY AMERICAN CIVILIANS, THE THIRD BY ISRAELIS; THE FOURTH BY EGYPTIANS WITH A TOKEN U.S. PRESENCE AT BOTH THESE OUT-POSTS. A FEW ISSUES STILL REMAIN TO BE WORKED OUT BUT THE FEELING EXISTS ON THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT THAT AS OF NOW AN AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT IS REACHABLE. AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES SAY, FRIDAY IS THE EARLIEST DAY POSSIBLE FOR AN ANNOUNCEMENT.

4. CBS RADIO, JERUSALEM, BKALB: THIS FAST MOVING DIPLOMATIC ITINERARY, TAKEN AS THE LATEST EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THE WIDELY HELD VIEW THAT AN ACCORD WILL BE REACHED. IN FACT, THE EXPECTATION IS JUST THAT BARRING AN UNEXPECTED HITCH, NONE SO FAR IN SIGHT. THE LAST SPURT OF SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY HAS SEEN A FEW OF THE UNRESOLVED ISSUES FALL INTO PLACE AS A RESULT OF MUTUAL COMPROMISES. THE ISRAELIS HAVE AGREED TO ALLOW A LIMITED EGYPTIAN FORCE TO MOVE INTO A SMALL AREA AT THE SOUTHERN TIP OF THE UN BUFFER ZONE IN TERRITORY TO BE RELINQUISHED BY ISRAEL'S RETAINING HER EARLY WARNING

POSTS IN THE SINAI PASSES; BUT EGYPT TOO WILL GET SUCH A POST. AT BOTH THESE POSTS THE PLANS CALL FOR A TOKEN U.S. CIVILIAN PRESENCE. TWO ADDITIONAL POSTS WILL BE ESTABLISHED, THESE TO BE MANNED EXCLUSIVELY BY

AMERICANS ACCORDING TO REPORTS HERE. TO LISTEN TO WELL-
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PLACED ISRAELIS UNLESS SOMETHING UNEXPECTED DEVELOPS -
IT IS JUST ABOUT ALL WRAPPED UP EXCEPT FOR A FEW ITEMS
THAT NEED TO BE DISCUSSED AND FOR THE INITIALING, AND THERE
IS TALK OF THAT HAPPENING, POSSIBLY, FRIDAY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARBITRATION, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, POLITICAL SITUATION, PRESS COMMENTS, TOSEC
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE202890
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/PRS:SWAGENSEIL:MG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750295-0543
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197508102/baaaatcw.tel
Line Count: 284
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PRS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 FEB 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 FEB 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <23 JAN 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971009
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, US, XF, PFOR, SOPN, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006